

VZCZCXYZ0007  
OO RUEHWEB

DE RUEHLE #0110 0741634  
ZNY CCCCC ZZH  
O 151634Z MAR 07  
FM AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5824  
INFO RUEHZG/NATO EU COLLECTIVE IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUXEMBOURG 000110

SIPDIS

SIPDIS

FOR EUR/NCE, EUR/PRA - MAZEVEDO, EURPPD - TCORN, VCI/MDSP -  
STEVEN ROSENKRANTZ, NSC - MAHAYWARD

E.O. 12958: DECL: 03/14/2017  
TAGS: [PGOV](#) [PINR](#) [PREL](#) [NATO](#) [MARR](#) [PL](#) [EZ](#) [RU](#) [LU](#)  
SUBJECT: LUXEMBOURG PRESSED TO REIN IN ITS FOREIGN MINISTER  
ON MISSILE DEFENSE

REF: A. LUXEMBOURG 108  
[1](#)B. KRAFT/GALLAGHER EMAIL 03/15/07  
[1](#)C. STATE 30480

Classified By: DCM Steven Kraft for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).

[1](#)1. (C) Following up to ref A, Embassy translated and sent to EUR/UBI the text of a statement by Foreign Minister Asselborn made March 13 before the Chamber of Deputies explaining his public comments criticizing the planned European missile defense system (MDS)(ref B). Embassy believes that the statement lacked focus and did not satisfactorily address USG concerns.

[1](#)2. (C) Ambassador Wagner raised the issue with senior Luxembourg government officials March 14 and 15. MFA International Economic Director and former ambassador to the U.S. Arlette Conzemius assured the Ambassador that the GOL position remains that the MDS should be addressed within the framework of NATO. Similarly, former Minister of Defense and current Justice Minister Luc Frieden confirmed to the Ambassador that Asselborn was voicing his own opinions. Ambassador Wagner emphasized to both officials the very serious depth of U.S. concerns about the Foreign Minister's statements.

[1](#)3. (C) Comment: We are pressing the MFA from all sides on this issue to keep up pressure on the Foreign Minister to rein in his rhetoric on MDS. Ambassador Wagner also intends to raise the matter with Prime Minister Juncker as soon as possible. End comment.

[1](#)4. (U) In response to ref C, Mission Luxembourg POC for this issue is Pol/Econ section chief Tom Boughter, [boughteret@state.gov](mailto:boughteret@state.gov).

WAGNER